

State Flag



The design of the Official Flag of the State of Missouri was prescribed by legislative action in 1913. The law describes the dimensions of its sides as being in a ratio of seven to twelve, that its red, white and blue stripes should be overlaid with a blue circle containing the coat-of-arms of the state, and that the circle should contain twenty-four stars, symbolic of the fact that Missouri was the twenty-fourth state admitted to the Union.

The three brilliant colors of the flag, as well as the device of the Great Seal in the center of the flag, all have a significance deeply rooted in American history, carrying out, as they do, the colors of the American flag, and containing a replica of the Great Seal of the United States within the State Seal.

MISSOURI RESOURCES MUSEUM

and

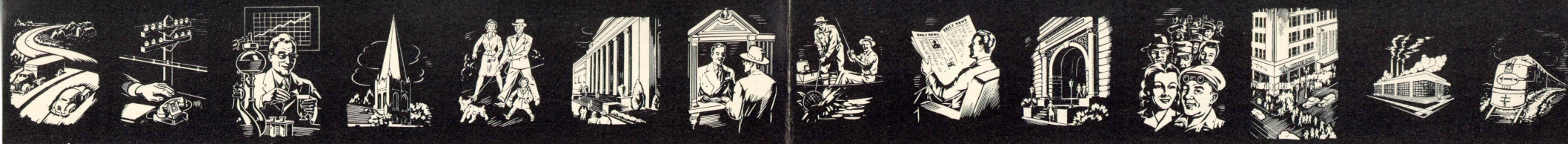
SOLDIERS AND SAILORS MEMORIAL HALL



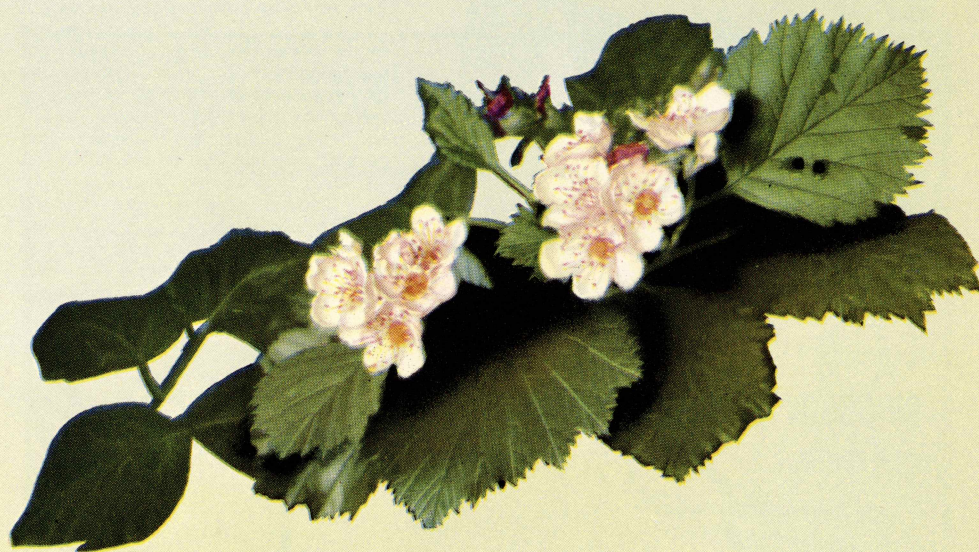
STATE CAPITOL BUILDING

Hammond and Irwin

Compliments of
DIVISION OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATION
STATE OFFICE BUILDING
Jefferson City, Missouri



State Flower



HAWTHORN

Massie-R & D

By Act of the Fifty-second General Assembly, approved March 16, 1923, the blossom of the Hawthorn (*crataegus*) is recognized as the Official Floral Emblem of the State. One of Missouri's living wonders, the Hawthorn is a member of the great rose family. Its clusters of white blossoms, with much the appearance of apple blossoms, burst forth in profusion in April and May.

A shrubby tree, ranging from three to thirty feet in height, it has stiff, zigzag branches bearing thorns as long as three inches. It derives its name, *crataegus*, from the Greek word for strength, referring to the toughness of its wood. The fruit, much like a tiny apple, ranges from pea-sized to larger than a marble. There are more than 75 different species of Hawthorn growing in many sections of Missouri, chiefly in the Ozarks.

State Bird

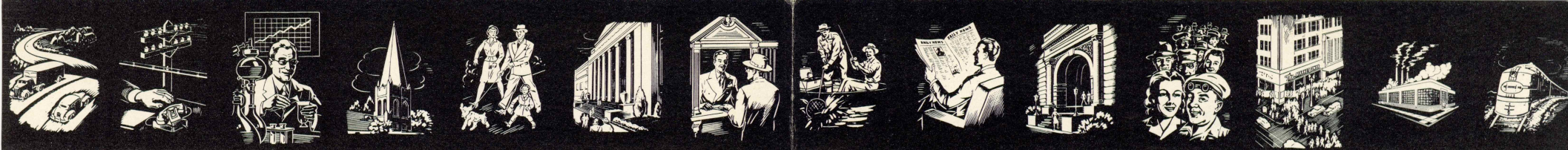


BLUE BIRD

Schwartz—Missouri Conservation Commission

From earliest spring until the snow flies in November—and often throughout the entire year—the native bluebird (*sialia sialis*) flashes across the State. Its name long a symbol for happiness, the bluebird was chosen Official State Bird in 1927.

The bird is predominantly rich sky-blue, with a reddish chestnut breast and white underneath. Its song is a pleasant soft warble. Like the woodpecker, the bluebird nests in hollow trees and posts. Often two broods of bluebirds are reared in one season, each nest containing five or six pale blue eggs.



THE MISSOURI STORY

MISSOURI is located between the geographic and population centers of our country. The many states which touch its borders indicate the variety which is Missouri's in climate and topography. In population, Missouri ranks tenth in the nation, with 3,784,600 inhabitants. Its area is 69,420 square miles, ranking eighteenth among the states in size.



With the Mississippi and Missouri, the state's two great rivers, and their feeder systems, over 1,000 miles of navigable waters can be included in the state's 404 square miles of water-covered land.

The Mississippi River has given Missouri its vast rich river-bottom areas of the extreme southeast, and a lowest elevation of 230 ft. above sea-level. Close by, the Ozark Mountains—covering the central and southern parts of the state—include Taum Sauk Mountain, the highest point, 1,771.7 feet above sea-level.

The Missouri River, named from the Missouris, a tribe of Siouan Indians, has named the state whose area it admirably serves. The river separates the Ozarks from the fertile upland table of the north and west.

Rich mineral deposits make Missouri a principal producing state for lead and zinc concentrates, clay products, coal and cement. Also commercially important are asphaltic sandstone, copper, cobalt, nickel, sand and gravel, iron ores, lime, silica sand and limestone.

More than three-fourths of Missouri's land is devoted to agriculture. Corn is the outstanding crop, but wheat, oats, tobacco, soybeans and potatoes also reach markets in large quantities. Cotton, Missouri's largest cash crop, is grown almost exclusively in the southeast counties. Missouri is a leading dairy state, and livestock and poultry are important.

Food and food processing, together with shoe and garment making, top the list of the six major industrial groups which make Missouri first in the nation in diversity of employment.

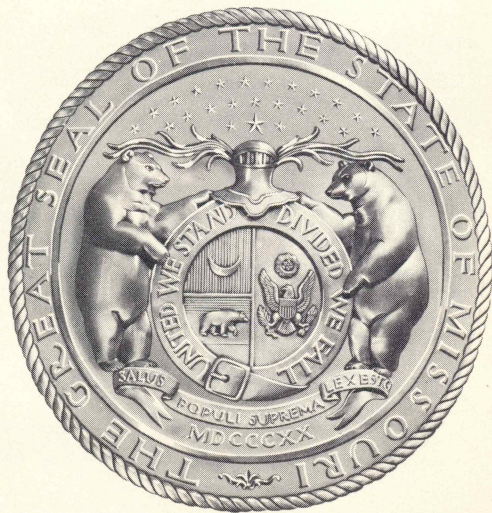
The state has several natural bridges, and many large springs and lakes. Many of its 350 recorded caves equal or surpass those of other states in beauty. These features, combined with a rich heritage of past history, make Missouri an interesting area in which to work, live, or vacation.

THE MUSEUM AND ITS BACKGROUND

For many years, prominent Missourians who recognized the extent and value of Missouri's underground resources, its forests, lakes and streams, and its agricultural potential, had felt a need for some form of dramatization of this story. Others, deeply versed in the history and military past of Missouri, joined in the movement with like purpose. That their basic objectives were sound is given full proof in the results of their efforts, embodied in the museum.

Plans for the present State Capitol Building included what was considered adequate space for both interests as they might be expressed in museum form. Two impressive halls to the right and left of the capitol rotunda formed the core of the imposing structure. East Hall was named Soldiers' and Sailors' Museum and West Hall, Missouri Resources Museum.

Great Seal of the STATE of MISSOURI



The Great Seal of the State of Missouri was established by legislative act in 1821, just after Missouri became a state. The design of the device is heavily weighted with symbolic meaning. In the center of the Seal there is a divided circle having on one side the coat-of-arms of the United States, and on the other the Missouri grizzly and a crescent, all of which is surrounded and symbolically joined by a band bearing the words, "United we stand, divided we fall." The full-faced helmet atop this circle symbolizes strength, and above it is the star Missouri, with a background of twenty-three other stars, representing Missouri's sister states. Two Missouri grizzlies supporting this shield and the Latin motto "The welfare of the people shall be the supreme law" complete the seal. MDCCCXX—1820—is the year Missouri began its functions as a state.

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After a Museum Commission was established in 1921, activity was directed to acquiring loans and temporary exhibits for quick results. Agricultural exhibits from the State Fair were acquired as loans and displayed without change. Unrelated materials from many sources were grouped on glass shelves. Duplicate materials helped in covering the vast space quickly.

Within this confusion valuable gains were buried. For instance, geological material, loaned at that time by a commercial lead company, is still the backbone of geology exhibits in the museum. Paleontological specimens became scattered and records were lost or unwritten. Preserving and collecting were the dominant activities.

In 1923, changes in the laws permitted the office of the Adjutant-General to assist in Soldiers' and Sailors' Museum affairs. Collecting and preserving was again the guiding concept. Regimental flags, bronze plaques and war souvenirs, arranged with a suggestion of chronology, resulted. Loans from patriotic organizations and individuals outnumbered gifts.

In 1923 the museum was transferred to the supervision of the Permanent Seat of Government and re-evaluation of materials on hand began. Original plans, as incorporated in the architecture of the museum halls, were found impractical, but due to various limitations old practices were continued. Objective research drifted to extensive studies in zoology and entomology. Although all operations were considerably hampered, photographs and bulletins on museum activities were produced from time to time. Under W.P.A. stimulus ambitious plans for a new and extensive museum were prepared.

Progress in concepts of modern museum operation and recognized changes in public needs seemed to make necessary another reorganization.

THE NEW MUSEUM AND ITS FUTURE

In 1943, the 62nd General Assembly enacted a Bill creating the Department of Resources and Development, with directives for operating in the fields of aviation, industrial development, recreation and tourist travel, and flood control. The new department was also placed in charge of the Missouri Resources Museum and Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Hall.

The department immediately began planning for the museum on the basis of an extensive study of other museums across the country. New personnel were requested to prepare a basic plan for the future development of the museum, following a policy stressing those things and facts that have particular connection with Missouri.

This activity revealed two problems of considerable size, involving the two classes of museum material, gifts and loans. The new work would depend on a reshuffling of gift material on hand. A complete recheck of some 60,000 items was started. Obvious problems in handling material loaned to the museum rather than given to it called for an effort to reduce the volume of loans from 50,000 to a workable minimum. After an extended investigation, a long-term plan involving these and other considerations was completed and approved by the Commission of Resources and Development in 1946.

West wing of the Museum, looking through Resources Hall towards Capitol rotunda. Out of sight near the rotunda is the soils map, departure point for the wing's divisions.

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Comprehensive Plans:

The new plan for development attempts to interpret the museum functions within four fields of activity, and divides the halls into four sections outlining these fields and pointing up their interrelation. These divisions are as follows: Industrial Resources, Organic Resources, Inorganic Resources and History.

Resources Hall contains three divisions of state resources. Stemming from the soils map at the entrance to the hall, the south Wall exhibits are concerned with the inorganic resources of Missouri. These will include unusual geological formations, paleontological discoveries and recreational aspects, as well as economically important minerals.

Again stemming from the soils map, but included in the north wall exhibits, this section of Resources Hall deals with the organic wealth of the state. Since organic resources are dependent on soil conditions, many exhibits in this section will be devoted to problems of soil control. Other displays will illustrate the variety and volume of Missouri's crop and livestock production.

Both the organic and inorganic sections along the two walls lead into the Industrial Section. Missouri's greatest single resource, the utilization of resources in the creation of manufactured goods, will be presented chronologically, dealing with past and present manufacturing and giving an indication of future potentialities. Through cooperation with Missouri industries, it is intended that some of the unique, some of the newest, and some of the most important Missouri industries will be shown.

East Hall is devoted to affairs of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial. Recognizing that the greatest memorial to these gallant Missourians is a concise recounting of the history in which they played so large a part, this will be primarily a History Hall. Missouri has a history of dramatic national significance which will make History Hall a most important part of the museum.

Throughout the entire plan for the Missouri Resources Museum, each integrated exhibit is planned and built to tell a single complete story in an attractive and concise manner. This general pattern—which is, in effect, the visual embodiment of the museum's purpose and philosophy—has been designed so that the museum will be an active force in informing the public about the tremendously interesting and important story of the State of Missouri.